



Raquette lake 20 megawatt battery

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A hamlet in the Adirondack Park is one step closer to hosting a 20-megawatt battery ...

The small dearly loved village of Raquette Lake, NY in the heart of the six-million-acre forest preserve called the Adirondack State Park needs your help. National Grid has signed a seven-year contract with Rev Renewables, a multi-billion dollar power company, to build a \$60 million utility-scale energy storage facility 500 feet from Raquette Lake's library which is next to the village green, residences, town dock and largest lake in the Adirondack Park.

This facility requires an industrial location in order to run safely and effectively. An energy plant does not belong at the breathtaking, pristine headwaters of the St. Lawrence Seaway; on a lake surrounded by 99 miles of mostly state owned shoreline wilderness where moose have recently returned and loons migrate home to mate, nest and fish year after year.

On May 23rd, more than 200 local and seasonal residents packed the Raquette Lake school gymnasium to express concerns about the residential, forested site and risks to their multi-generation homes, lake and surrounding area's wild preserve. National Grid and Rev Renewables presented detailed plans to build and operate a 20 MW and 40 MWh lithium battery storage and backup power facility. The facility's site map indicates 12 shipping container size batteries will be placed in the village of Raquette Lake on over two acres of forest above the hamlet, wetlands, and lake with room to build-out on an adjacent site.

Rev Renewables and National Grid have been working on the project in secret for more than 3 years. The project will clear and level 2.5 rocky, elevated acres of mature forest classified by the DEC as Rare Plants and Animals above wetlands and village. Day-to-day the facility will be used primarily to buy and sell power on wholesale energy markets for profit not provide battery back up for their Raquette Lake customers located in Zone 3 - one of the coldest regions of country.

According to National Grid's September 2019 Request for Proposal, "the energy storage system must be located near the end of National Grid's radial 46kV Sub-Transmission line to maximize the potential reliability improvements. The ideal location for the storage system is near substation along the 46kV line (which runs along State Route NY-28)." A lithium storage battery in Raquette Lake fulfills two criteria for National Grid: 1). "Mitigate reliability concerns" and 2). Stores electrical energy for "NYISO wholesale market participation" in Zone F at "similar or higher wholesale energy and ancillary service market prices...within National Grid's service territory".

However, the location Rev Renewables selected is not near the substation which is located a mile away on Route 28 outside of the hamlet. Nor does National Grid's Request for Proposal take into consideration Raquette Lake's never logged, delicate ecosystem and wildlife, which would be damaged



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for decades, if not forever, in the event of a forest fire.

This kind of facility has experienced large, dangerous fires and taken big city fire departments days to extinguish.

Rev Renewables owns four other lithium battery storage facilities which are in California. They are in light industrial areas on flat land without forest, lakes, or hamlets. We are not against renewable energy and technology, especially ones that provide true green power. However, we do question the logic of placing a lithium battery storage facility in the middle of the hamlet of Raquette Lake in the middle of the Adirondack Park. Key concerns include:

"Rev Renewables and National Grid are trying to sell this as backup power for local residents. I already have a generator. This system will have to be shut down on the coldest winter days. I'd hope we could get more than 2 hours of convenience power for \$60 million." Liz Forsell, Raquette Lake Resident

"It is simply not worth it here. This ill-conceived project should not have gotten this far without proper outreach to residents. Represented as backup power, this is actually a profit maker with 100% of the cost borne by ratepayers. It should not be forced on a community that does not want it." Anonymous, Raquette Lake Resident

We also please ask for your help funding an independent environmental study and environmental legal counsel by visiting

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